

Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program

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Helena, Mt- The Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program (MGSLP) is pleased to announce that it has expanded its FASTPLUSTM product to include Graduate Plus loans. Graduate PLUS loans are federally sponsored loans for independent students attending graduate school. The new product that will be used to process Graduate PLUS loans is known as FASTPLUSTM Grad. FASTPLUSTM Grad provides an online Master Promissory Note with electronic signatures.

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, recently signed into law, gives graduate students the same benefits as the traditional PLUS loan for parents. A GRAD PLUS loan will allow a graduate student to borrow up to the full cost of education, minus other financial aid. Schools can certify Grad PLUS loans as of July 1 and have them processed by MGSLP.

"We are proud to offer a product that enables graduate students to pursue their advanced degrees, while at the same time making higher education a reality for more Montana students", says Bruce Marks, Director of the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program.

MGSLP is working with schools to enable them to offer FASTPLUSTM Grad to their graduate and professional students.

For more information on MGSLP's FASTPLUSTM Grad visit <u>www.mgslp.org</u> or call Customer Service at 800-537-7508.

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MGSLP is the designated guarantor of Federal Family Education Loans in Montana and is part of the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. Located in Helena, Montana, the agency also administers a variety of state, federal, and private grant and scholarship programs. MGSLP also administers the Montana College Savings Plan, as well as the University System Honor Scholarship and the Governor's Postsecondary Scholarship Program. The grant and scholarship programs MGSLP administers are at no cost to Montanans.